

Next, let's look at the Department of Labor. The President's Department of Labor is actively writing a rule dealing with coal dust that could potentially shut down totally underground mining. The rule is so unworkable and unreasonable that it has even been said that coal miners wearing full oxygen masks and tanks would not be in compliance with the rule. Think about that. Coal miners that would be breathing in pure oxygen would still be in violation of this new rule. And I'm not sure how a coal company can continue with a rule like that, and that's why we've been fighting against the implementation of this rule, called the coal dust rule, as well.

We and the American people should not be surprised by the President's actions nor the actions of his administration against the coal industry since he came into office. As our colleague from West Virginia pointed out, he told us back before he was first elected that his anti-coal policies would cause electricity prices to skyrocket and that it would bankrupt a utility company if it wanted to build a new coal-fired power plant in America. It might have taken him almost 5 years to deliver on those promises, but we're about to see him issue rules that will cause energy prices to skyrocket, make it impossible to build a coal-fired power plant, and kill thousands of jobs across the country.

However, as we have seen tonight, there is a strong will here in the House of Representatives to stand up and fight back against the President's policies. So here's the message: we will not roll over because the future of our economy and the livelihoods of our constituents, our children and grandchildren are on the line. We will continue to fight through the appropriations process. We will continue to work hard to educate the public on these destructive policies until the President backs down.

I want to share one final story before I yield back. I wasn't born into the coal production industry. I didn't grow up knowing a lot about coal production, but I sure learned a lot about coal consumption. I spoke to the Ohio association of rural electric co-ops about a month ago and I shared with them that as a small boy, I was the utilities manager at a rural utility co-op. Now they looked at me like some of you are looking at me. They cocked their head kind of sideways and said, how can a young boy be the director of a utility co-op?

You see, on that rural farm where we worked, we had no indoor plumbing, and my grandmother heated and cooked on a big, black, round potbellied stove. My job as a young boy before I went to bed each night was to make sure that the coal bucket was full on the back porch so when my granddad got up at 4:30 in the morning to fire up that stove so grandmother could get up and start breakfast, it was there. It was also my job to bring in a

cistern of water from the outside pump so she didn't have to go outside and get it.

So in a very real sense, I was the utilities manager for that farm. I provided the fuel and ensured that the fuel was there to heat and cook, and provided the water.

Folks, that's the character that America was built on. That's what hardworking people along Appalachia, Ohio remember. They dreamed of a future for their children and their grandchildren because they lived that kind of character. They still live it today.

I want to thank my colleagues for coming tonight and joining me in this effort to stop the administration's war on the coal industry.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to direct their remarks to the Chair.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2965. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Harmonization of Compliance Obligations for Registered Investment Companies Required to Register as Commodity Pool Operators (RIN: 3038-AD75) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2966. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Clearing Exemption for Certain Swaps Entered into by Cooperatives (RIN: 3038-AD47) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2967. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting notification of the President's intent to exempt all military personnel accounts for FY 2014; to the Committee on Appropriations.

2968. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2969. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Susan S. Lawrence, United States Army, and her advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2970. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General James D. Thurman, United States

Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2971. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes in Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Connecticut: Hartford) [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2972. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Annual Report entitled, "Delays in Approvals of Applications Related to Citizen Petitions and Petitions for Stay of Agency Action for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2973. A letter from the Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition and Revision to the List of Validated End-Users in the People's Republic of China [Docket No.: 130826763-3763-01] (RIN: 0694-AF95) received September 3, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2974. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Memorandum of justification for the 2013 certification regarding U.S. Assistance to the Government of Colombia's Air Bridge Denial Program; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2975. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to Section 804 of the PLO Commitments Compliance Act of 1989 (title VIII, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101-246)), and Sections 603-604 (Middle East Peace Commitments Act of 2002) and 699 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY 2003 (Pub. L. 107-228), the functions of which have been delegated to the Department of State; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2976. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2977. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting U.S. support for Taiwan's participation as an observer at the 2013 International Civil Aviation Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2978. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe that was declared in Executive Order 13288 of March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2979. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Diamond Darter (*Crystallaria cincotta*) [Docket No.: FWS-R5-ES-2013-0019] (RIN: 1018-AZ40) received September 9, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2980. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened